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REMARKS***Status of the Application***

The pending claim is Claim 19. Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claim Amendment

Claim 19 is being amended to advance the prosecution by adding the limitation that the compounds claimed are electroluminescent ligands. The amendment finds support in the specification particularly at page 5, lines 5-7, where it is stated that Applicants believe that the emission of the iridium compounds is ligand-based, resulting from ligand-to-metal charge transfer and Table 2, bridging pages 9-10 of the application, which shows examples of 2-phenylpyridine and 2-phenylpyrimidine compounds of having structure (II) that are used as light-emitting ligands in electroluminescent Ir(III) compounds. There is further support *passim* throughout the application.

Applicants respectfully request that this amendment be entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)/(b) as anticipated by Gosmini, Shkurko or Chatani, as summarized below.

1. Gosmini et al. Gosmini identifies structure 2-e as a biologically active compound, notably an agrochemical (p. 5039, first paragraph). The main thrust of this article pertains to catalyzed synthetic methods for a variety of biologically active 2-arylpyridines.

2. Shkurko et al. The Examiner asserts that Shkurko discloses structure 2-h.

3. Chatani et al. Chatani discloses a structure that also appears to be 2-s (R₃ is CF₃, A is C, and R₁, R₂ and R₄ – R₉ are all H). This structure is disclosed in Chatani as a reaction intermediate in a synthetic process for preparing compound 13.

Applicants submit that claim 19, as amended, overcomes Gosmini, Shkurko and Chatani. The amended claim contains an essential limitation, that the compound is an electroluminescent ligand, that is not present or suggested by any of the foregoing references. For this reason, no reference anticipates the amended claim.

Applicants respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn.

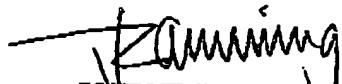
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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the pending claim is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of Claim 19 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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